

REMARKS

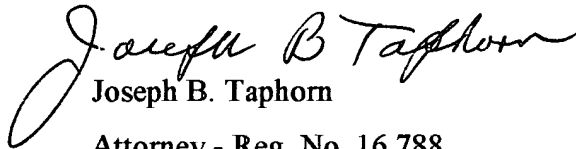
In the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment attached to the 03/02/2004 Office Communication, it was said that the "amendment document filed on 2/25/04 is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121, as amended on June 30, 2003" because "4.C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified." Specifically, it was said that "'Amended' is not a proper status identifier."

Applicant has identified 4 claims as having the status identifier "Amended". These are claims 1, 3, 14, and 18.

While Applicant urges that the status of each claim can be identified, he has amended claims 1, 3, 14, and 18 so that their status identifier reads "(currently amended)" rather than "(amended)".

All inconveniences incurred by the oversight are regretted.

Respectfully submitted,



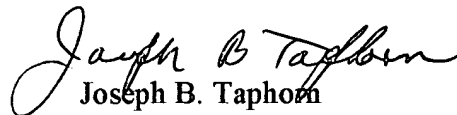
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING - the undersigned certifies that this correspondence addressed to the Mail Stop "Non-Fee Amendment", Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, is being deposited with the U.S. Postal System as first class mail with sufficient postage this March 12, 2004 by the undersigned.



Joseph B. Taphorn